

Public can verify RN registration online thanks to CRNM Nurse Check

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Winnipeg, MB – The public can now verify the registration of a registered nurse (RN), nurse practitioner (NP) or graduate nurse (GN) in Manitoba through a new online public register called CRNM Nurse Check. This easy-to-use online tool is intended to help members of the public identify whether a person providing services as an RN, NP or GN in Manitoba is registered with the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba (CRNM) and whether there are any conditions or restrictions on that nurse's practice. CRNM Nurse Check is available at www.crnmb.ca.

By inputting part of an RN, NP or GN's first or last name or registration number into CRNM Nurse Check, the user will be able to see the individual's registration status (RN, NP, GN, non-practicing etc.), registration expiry date and any conditions on their practice. This information is public information under the Registered Nurses Act and Regulation and was previously available by calling the College during business hours. An online verification service has been available to employers of registered nurses since 2004.

CRNM is required to have a register of members available to the public. With the launch of CRNM Nurse Check, the College joins several other health profession regulators in Canada who have moved to online public registers. Online public registers are considered best practice in the regulation of health professionals because this method of registration verification minimizes the risk of illegal practitioners fraudulently obtaining employment and is a more accessible mechanism for checking a professional's registration status.

"While this information has always been public information, CRNM Nurse Check will be available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week," says Diane Wilson Máté, CRNM Executive Director.

In tandem with the launch of CRNM Nurse Check, CRNM is eliminating paper certificates of practice that were previously provided to members. In the past, some employers and the public have used paper certificates of practice to verify a nurse's registration status which can be problematic because a paper certificate of practice is only accurate on the day it is printed and does not reflect changes in registration status that may occur after the certificate is issued.

"CRNM Nurse Check is a more reliable way to verify an RN, NP or GN's registration status because it is updated in real time, ensuring the information is current and accurate," says Wilson Máté. "This paperless system supports our mandate of public protection through timely access to accurate information about a registered nurse's registration status."

The College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba is the professional regulatory organization for registered nurses in Manitoba. The College is accountable for setting standards for registered nursing education, registration and practice, supporting registered nurses in meeting the standards and taking action when the standards are not met.

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